

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 were examined in the September 21, 2007 non-final Office Action. Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, for improper antecedent basis. Claims 1-10 stand rejected as obvious over Applicant's admitted prior art, FIG. 1, in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,499,388 to *Adam*. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested in view of the remarks which follow.

A. § 112, 2nd Paragraph Rejection of Claim 4 is Addressed.

The rejection of claim 4 as lacking antecedent basis for first and second means is addressed by amending claim 4 to recite "first switch" and "second switch", previously recited in claim 1. Withdrawal of the § 112 rejection is requested.

B. Obviousness Rejection of Claims 1-10 is Addressed.

The rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as over admitted prior art (FIG. 1) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,499,388 to *Adam* is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner's rejection is premised upon an identification of an inverter (T21, T22) as having first (line between T11, T12, and T22) and second (U) power terminals. The characterization of node (U) as a "power terminal" is respectfully deemed to be incorrect. Node (U) is in fact not a "power terminal" but rather an output node for providing an "output voltage". See *Adam*, col. 3, lines 8-9. The second "power terminal" of the inverter identified by the Examiner would be node U0 (which is coupled to ground). The Examiner's selection of the output node of the inverter as a "power terminal" seems to have been made so the identified switching transistors MT and ZT would be in the correct circuit configuration to reject claims 1 and 6. There is no teaching, however, in *Adam* regarding the switching of node U0, as this node is hardwired to ground.

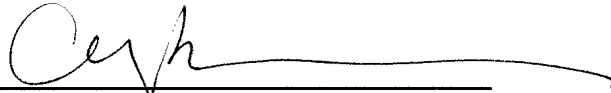
Accordingly, the combination of the admitted prior art with *Adam* fails under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as all of the claimed limitations found in claims 1 and 6 are not present in the hypothetical combination of the two references. Claims 1 and 6 are therefore deemed to be allowable over admitted prior art FIG. 1 taken with *Adam*. Remaining claims 2-5 and 7-10 are deemed to be allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection are therefore respectfully requested.

B. Conclusion.

Pending claims 1-10 all being in form for allowance, such action is respectfully requested. Should any issues remain, the Examiner is kindly asked to telephone the undersigned. Although no fee is believed to be due, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1123 any required fees associated with this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

December 7, 2007



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